GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3691
ANSWERED ON:21.03.2001
ESTABLISHMENT OF RPO/PO
BABUBHAI KHIMABHAI KATARA;CHANDRESH PATEL KORDIA

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up regional passport office/passport office in Surat and Rajkot;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the timeframe fixed for it;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the number of States where more than one passport office has been opened during the last five years;

(e) the details thereof; and

(f) the reasons therefor ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI U.V. KRISHNAM RAJU)

(a),(b) & (c) As per the recommendations of the Standing Committee of Parliament, a new Passport Office should be centrally located, should consider the existing nearby offices and should get an average of 50,000 passport applications per annum.. As Surat meets these criteria, a new Passport Office would be opened at Surat after the proposal for creation of some additional posts in the Central Passport Organisation is approved.

(d)& (e) The number of States where more than one Passport Office has been opened during the last five years and details thereof are as follows:-

STATE	PASSPORT OFFICE	YEAR OF OPENING
ANDHRA PRADESH	VISAKHAPATNAM	1997
MAHARASHTRA	THANE	1996
MAHARASHTRA	PUNE	1999
UTTAR PRADESH	GHAZIABAD	1997

(f) These Passport Offices have been openedfor the reasons that the number of applications for fresh passports received from these places and their adjoining areas were either more than or about 50,000 or the old Passport Office was located at a considerably long distance from the region.